

women's contributions to our Nation. The NWHP is in the forefront of national campaigns that call attention to women's achievements and has been recognized by a wide-range of organizations and commissions.

Molly's passion for women's history was first stoked in 1972 when she proposed teaching a semester class on the topic at a high school. A colleague commented that the whole class should take about an hour "because what have women ever done, anyway?" Molly did teach the well-received semester class then enrolled in the history graduate program at Sonoma State University where she created a multimedia slide show, "We, the Women," which was shown throughout California to enthusiastic reception by women and men.

As president of NWHP, Molly has worked with national women's organizations to build coalitions, develop programs, and encourage them to celebrate their own histories. She and her colleagues Mary Ruthsdotter, Maria Cuevas, Bonnie Eisenberg and Susanne Otteman have also worked with specialists around the country to integrate a women's perspective into the school curriculum. The NWHP has received funding for this outreach from the U.S. Department of Education and been recognized by the National Education Association, the National Association for Multicultural Education, and the Center for Women Policy Studies.

Molly has been honored by numerous groups including the California Commission on the Status of Women, the Sonoma County NAACP, and the Giraffe foundation (for "sticking her neck out). In 1999 she was chosen as one of three appointments from the White House to the Women's Progress Commission.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time resident of Sonoma County, it has been my pleasure to work with Molly Murphy MacGregor and the National Women's History Project to promote understanding and appreciation of the role of women in our culture. Their vision has helped create a legacy that everyone in this country can honor and appreciate.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD,  
KEEGAN RILEY SHAW

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today, my wife Emilie and I are celebrating the arrival of our 15th grandchild—Keegan Riley Shaw. This morning at 7:51 a.m., 2 days before St. Patrick's Day, our son and daughter-in-law, J.C. and Angela Shaw, gave birth to this 7-pound, 10-ounce baby boy.

There is a special bond between grandparents and grandchildren. We are truly blessed.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BEXAR COUNTY CONSTABLE JIMMY WILLBORN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Constable Jimmy Willborn for his exceptional career in law enforcement.

Jimmy Willborn has served in law enforcement for more than 40 years. He holds a Master Peace Officers License, and for 31 years, he worked to keep his fellow citizens safe as a member of the San Antonio Police Department.

During his career, he has been a consistent advocate for better law enforcement. He is the founder of the Blue Santa program, and the former director of the Texas Narcotics Control Program. He helped to build connections with other law enforcement agencies as the secretary/treasurer of CLEAT, the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas. He put his expertise to work as a developer of the National and State Control Policy for Drug and Violent Crimes, in 1994 and 1995.

Jimmy Willborn currently serves as Constable for Precinct 2 of Bexar County, Texas. He also works as a lobbyist for the South West Texas Constable's and Justice of the Peace Association, attempting to help legislators craft bills that will strengthen the Texas Law enforcement community. He is currently lobbying in support of bills that will help to keep Texas' children safe by creating reduced-speed school zones around high schools.

Mr. Speaker, Constable Jimmy Willborn is a dedicated guardian for the people of Bexar County, and his community is safer and stronger as a result of his presence. I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize his service.

### CONGRATULATING RON D'ELISEO ON BEING HONORED AS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Ron D'Eliseo, who was recognized at a reception on February 20, 2005 at the Grammercy Ballroom in Pittston. The Sunday Dispatch chose Ron D'Eliseo as the Greater Pittston Person of the Year for 2004.

Ron D'Eliseo and his wife Brenda have three children, Robert, Ronnie and Christen. Robert, who will be 9 years old in July, has autism. Ron chose to channel his heartache into finding a way to help others. He decided to raise money for autism awareness and research, organizing a motorcycle benefit cruise called the Ride for Robert. The benefit has Robert riding with Ron on his American Iron Horse Texas Chopper or his old Harley Davidson.

The Earthly Angels Autism Fund of the Luzerne Foundation is a result of the Ride for Robert. The Ride, now in its sixth year, has helped raise more than \$40,000. Ron's efforts have helped parents of autistic children understand this devastating illness. He established and maintains a library at Milestone's in Wyoming.

Through Earthly Angels, Ron has helped sponsor autistic children learn to ride horses at a summer camp, a swimming program at the Greater Pittston YMCA and a music therapy program at St. Joseph's Center in Scranton. More recently, Earthly Angels made a donation to the family of an autistic boy from Williamsport, Pennsylvania, who died from cold weather exposure when he wandered away from home.

Ron is planning an autism conference and dinner in 2006. Ron also is active in his church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Pittston.

Ron D'Eliseo is an everyday hero who took his pain and used it to help others. A humble man, I know that Ron does not take credit for what he has done. Instead, he praises his family and friends, people who have supported his cause, and perhaps most of all, Robert.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating this father who has given so much of himself.

### THE RADIOPROTECTANT PROCUREMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Radioprotectant Procurement Act of 2005. This bill directs the Departments of Health and Human Services and Homeland Security to review all potentially viable radiation countermeasures and to move toward procurement of those which the government deems safe and effective against a nuclear or radiological attack.

The threat of a radiological or nuclear attack is one of the gravest faced by the United States. The results of such an attack could be catastrophic, causing death, widespread radiation sickness, economic hardship and at the very least, tremendous strain on public health resources. These effects could be mitigated if the proper radiation countermeasures are rapidly administered.

Currently, the medical options for responding to acute radiation exposure are very limited. Decontamination of individuals through showering and changing clothes is currently the main tool we have to "treat" large numbers of actual or suspected casualties. But this does little to prevent or mitigate the radiation sickness caused by initial radiation exposure or radioactive fallout.

The good news is that there are a number of drugs and other medical countermeasures that have the potential to counteract the health effects of radiation exposure. The Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute is now testing at least one product that might actually slow or stop the destruction of bone marrow caused by radiation and resulting diminution of

the body's immune system—a leading cause of sickness and death from irradiation. Unfortunately, no such radioprotectants are stockpiled in amounts adequate enough to be effective against large-scale nuclear or radiological attacks.

In 2004, President George W. Bush signed into law the Project Bioshield Act of 2004, authorizing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct and support research and development of effective countermeasures. The Radioprotectant Procurement Act seeks to accelerate these efforts, as every day that passes without progress in obtaining a needed countermeasure is another day that we remain vulnerable against that threat.

If we can give people a drug that will keep them alive and healthy after being exposed to high levels of radiation, then I think we should do everything we reasonably can to get that drug purchased and distributed as quickly as possible.

The bill I am introducing today calls upon the Federal Government to do just that, and to move as expeditiously as possible in this regard. I look forward to continuing to work with the administration and my colleagues in this body to make sure that these new and innovative medical countermeasures continue to be responsibly but quickly developed, tested, and stockpiled. The American people deserve nothing less.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I ask my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring and enacting this important bill.

#### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST THE CANADIAN SEAL HUNT

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2005*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I join many of my colleagues and 8.5 million members of the Humane Society of the United States in designating March 15 as the International Day of Action Against the Canadian Seal Hunt. Across the world in 50 cities, citizens will be coming together at Canadian Embassies and Consulates to call for an end to the horrific slaughter of harp and hooded seals.

The Canadian seal hunt season runs from November 15 to May 15 and occurs off the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador. Anyone with a commercial sealing license or provincial hunting license can take part in the seal hunt.

The Canadian Government has authorized the killing of over 300,000 seals this year alone, and 975,000 from 2003–2005. They have also helped to pay for this hunt with \$20 million in subsidies provided to the sealing industry between 1995 and 2001. While there are quotas in place, they are not enforced by the government. According to the Humane Society of the United States the number of seals killed in 2002 surpassed the quota by more than 37,000 seals, and in 2004, by nearly 16,000. These numbers do not take into account the number of seals who were wounded and perished later.

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

While this season's seal hunt opened on November 15, 2004, the bulk of the killings will begin taking place in the next few weeks as new seal pups are born. These new seal pups are called "beaters" by the hunters. While hunters do kill adult seals, an estimated 95 percent of those killed are 12 days to 12 months old. These seals, who are either clubbed or shot to death, are killed primarily for their skins.

In 1991, an independent team of veterinarians found that the seal hunt did not adhere to Canada's animal welfare regulations. Most disturbing of their findings is that 42 percent of the seals they studied had likely been skinned alive while conscious. This high percentage of live skinning alone is a disturbing number, but combined with the other details of the seal hunt it is clear that it is time for an end to this practice.

The Canadian fishing industry claims that the seal hunt needs to continue because they eat too many cod and adversely impact the fish population. However, two Canadian Government marine scientists have stated clearly that the true cause of cod depletion was over fishing. They also noted that, "the consensus among the international community is that seals are not responsible for the collapse in cod stocks."

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans Minister hailed the seal hunt by saying it will harvest "a valuable natural resource." Harp and hooded seals are not a natural resource, but animals that should not have to endure the suffering inflicted through the government authorized seal hunt.

I join with not only the Humane Society of the United States, but also with Greenpeace, Nova Scotia Humane Society and the World Society for the Protection of Animals, among many other organizations, in calling for the Canadian Government to end this barbaric and inhumane practice.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2005*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 14, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 66, 67, and 68. The votes I missed include rollcall No. 66 on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 135, providing for the establishment of a commission in the House of Representatives to assist parliaments in emerging democracies; rollcall No. 67 on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 101, urging the European Union to add Hezbollah to the European Union's wide-ranging list of terrorist organizations; and on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to S. 384, to extend the existence of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group for two years.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 66, 67, and 68.

*March 16, 2005*

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT PUENTE

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Puente for his distinguished career in public service.

Robert Puente is currently serving his eighth term in the Texas Legislature. He is Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee and serves on the Local Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Puente is especially involved in ensuring that Texas always has an adequate water supply; he is cochair of the Study Commission for Water on Environmental Flows, and is a member of the Texas Water Advisory Council.

Mr. Puente is a proud product of the Texas higher educational system. He graduated from St. Mary's University in San Antonio with a bachelor's degree in political science, and he received his doctorate in jurisprudence from the University of Texas Law School in 1982.

Included among Mr. Puente's many legislative accomplishments are his work on the passage of the Edwards Aquifer Authority legislation and the establishment of the Aquifer Authority's elected board, and his support for SB1, which implemented a comprehensive water plan for the state.

Representative Puente continues to live in San Antonio with his wife, Carmen Puente, and his three children. In addition to his legislative activities, he finds the time to participate in a number of different community organizations.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Robert Puente's farsighted legislative work has helped secure the future of San Antonio and our great state of Texas, and I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize him here.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2005*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House on Monday, March 14, due to a previous and unavoidable commitment. Therefore, I was unable to vote on H. Res. 135 (rollcall No. 66), H. Res. 101 (rollcall No. 67), and S. 384 (rollcall No. 68). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three measures considered before the House.

#### TRIBUTE TO WING KAI FAT

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2005*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to an old friend and a wonderful man, Wing Kai Fat. He passed away on